



Oh fathers let's go down...

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way

Oh mothers let's go down...

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way

Oh sinners let's go down...

As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way



Ripley United Church of Christ Celebration of Worship

Jan. 12th, 2025
Epiphany / Baptism of the Lord



Welcome and Announcements Prelude and Candle Lighting

Praise and Invocation (excerpted from Psalm 29):

One: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Many: Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor.

One: The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

Many: The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.

One: May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Many: Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** "Down to the River to Pray" (inside back cover and back cover)

Confession:

One: Our faith teaches humility

Many: We think of ourselves before others, before God.

One: Our Gospel calls us to watch for the Spirit within.

Many: We ignore the Epiphany.

One: Forgive us, God, our failings.

Many: Teach us to serve as we are called.

Silent Prayer

Assurance:

One: Hear the Gospel! Our God is a gracious and loving God.

Many: By His grace, we are forgiven

One: By His love, we are set free

All: Amen

Passing the Peace/ Children's Procession

Our scripture teaches that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who enter it like a child. As our children come forward, it is our custom to greet each other from our places, then sing the children to the front with the traditional song "This Little Light of Mine." If you are worshiping with us online, please feel free to say hello in the comments, so we know you are here.

Children's Celebration - "Wings of a Dove"

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Message: "The Missing Lines"

Hymn: "Spirit of Love" (black hymnal #58)

Offertory

***Presentation of our Offerings:** Doxology (black hymnal #780)

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

Communion

Invitation

One: Our faith is one of extravagant welcome. We honor God's table, open to all.

Many: We gather with all Creation.



Down To The River To Pray

*As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way*

*Oh sisters let's go down
Let's go down come on down
Oh sisters let's go down
Down to the river to pray*

*As I went down in the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the robe and crown
Good Lord show me the way*

Oh brothers let's go down...

*As I went down to the river to pray
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord show me the way*





Meetings:

- Board of Deacons: Sunday Jan. 12th @ 10:00 am - Fellowship Hall
- Board of Trustees: Tuesday Jan. 14th @ 5:30 pm - Fellowship Hall
- Mission Committee: Wednesday TBD

Mission/Church/Community Involvement:

- Quilting is ready for the new year! Thursday Jan. 16th @ 9:00 am
- Noisy Offering- Jan. 26th - Storcks Nest - Lent Offering for 2025
- Help us take down Christmas @ Ripley - Jan. 19th after worship and before we go across for lunch at UMC.
- Ripley Folks - You are invited to: United Methodist Church for Lunch
 - Sunday Jan. 19th - Lunch at 10:45ish after their worship
- United Methodist Church - Invitation/Call for Help:
 - UMC Invites Guest Choir members to join their choir on Feb. 16th @ 9:30 am - they have a special worship hosted by the Gideons. The Choir will be singing familiar hymns as a part of the service. No advance practice - just join in during worship that day. For more information contact Linday Lyons @ 319-404-2900.

Religious Education

- Adult RE will begin soon with the discussion series, "Jesus Said What?", which imagines a Christianity built on the actual words of Christ, as represented in the Gospels. Time and place TBA
- Confirmation will be scheduled Spring/Summer 2025 for youth aged 13 and up. Please see Jim if you know a young person who might be interested.
- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help with Children's RE during future services. Please see Jim for details.

Upcoming Events:

- RUCC Annual Meeting: Feb. 9th after Worship - Sanctuary
**Weather Make Up Date: Feb. 16th after Worship - Sanctuary

NOTICE: Annual reports are due by Sunday Jan. 19th. Send to Joyce Scribner's email address: Littlehousequilts@hotmail.com

Prayer

One: God be with you

Many: And also with you

One: Lift up your hearts

Many: We lift them up to God

One: Let us give thanks to God

Many: It is right to give thanks and praise

One: God of all creation, we give thanks for your continuous care. We praise the living, mortal example of your son, Jesus Christ, who offers a path to salvation. We honor the Holy Spirit, who reminds us of your truth, your presence and your promise.

Many: God of Love and Grace, the whole Universe speaks to your Glory. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God. Hosanna!

Setting the Table

One: We remember that on the night of his betrayal and desertion, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying, "this is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup, saying, "Drink this, all of you. This is the blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Many: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

One: This table is God's table, open to all creation. These elements are the body and blood of Christ, broken and poured for you. This faith we share is the Spirit, which unites us in Holy Communion. For this, we give thanks.

Many: We proclaim our continuing faith in the Good News of Jesus Christ, and offer our lives in service.

One: Let us pray the words Jesus taught us:

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Call to the Supper

One: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

One: The cup is the communion of the blood of Christ.

One: Jesus, Lamb of God

Many: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, bearer of our sins

Many: have mercy on us

One: Jesus, redeemer of the world

Many: give us your peace

One: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

Sharing the Elements

One: Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, broken for you.

Many: Amen!

One: Take and drink, this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you.

Many: Amen!

***Closing Hymn:** "When Peace, Like a River.." (black hymnal #393)

***Benediction Postlude**

* Please stand, in body or spirit



Thank you for attending Ripley United Church of Christ.
We're glad you came.

Song Leader was Alex Bagenstos
RE helper was Lindsey Christie

Bridge Minister Jim Coppoc is available to our community at:
515-708-4343 (text is best)

jimatripley@gmail.com
[Facebook.com/jim.at.ripley](https://www.facebook.com/jim.at.ripley)

Find us online at www.ripleyucc.org, or connect to us in person over refreshments downstairs after the service.

Prayer requests can be submitted online at
<https://tinyurl.com/3n324nvk>, or in person to Jim or any Deacon

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

